UNITED NATIONS

Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(5)/CST/3
5 September 2001

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
Committee on Science and Technology
Fifth session
Geneva, 2-4 October 2001
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

SURVEY AND EVALUATION OF EXISTING NETWORKS, INSTITUTIONS, AGENCIES AND BODIES

Note by the secretariat

1. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of article 25 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Committee on Science and Technology (CST) is to make provision for undertaking a survey and evaluation of relevant existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies willing to become units of a network to support implementation of the Convention.

2. Pursuant to paragraph 3 of decision 13/COP.4, the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology at its inter-sessional meeting of 14-15 August 2001 invited the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to submit a revised proposal for undertaking phase 2 of the survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies.

3. In consultation with its Consortium partners, UNEP has revisited the original offer contained in ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3/Add.1 and suggests limiting the pilot phase 2 of the survey and evaluation to the 10 anglophone countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

4. The submission from UNEP is annexed hereto as requested by the CST Bureau.

Annex

REVISED PROJECT PROPOSAL

Title of project: ***Phase 2 of the survey and evaluation of networks, agencies and bodies relevant to the implementation of the Convention: Pilot in-depth survey in the southern African subregion and maintenance and development of the database developed during phase 1***

With reference to the request by the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology at its meeting on 14-15 August 2001 (ref. ICCD/COP(5)/INF.6 of 21 August 2001), the UNEP-led Consortium of agencies submits herewith its revised proposal for undertaking phase 2 of the Survey and evaluation of networks, agencies and bodies relevant to the implementation of the Convention (ref. the original offer ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3/Add.1 of 29 November 2000).

By concentrating exclusively on anglophone countries during the phase 2 pilot project, Consortium members will be able to work with a broad range of southern African countries in the most cost-effective way possible.

Developing, testing and refining the in-depth survey instruments in one language alone will enable the Consortium to cut down as much as possible on potential problems of misunderstanding or mistranslation during phase 2, and to concentrate entirely on developing the best possible survey instruments for wide-scale use during phase 3. Once the in-depth survey instruments are fully developed and tested in one language, it will be a much quicker and more cost-effective task to translate these instruments into other languages for use during phase 3.

However, further development of the web site/database language capabilities will continue as per the original plan for phase 2.

Since its inception during phase 1, the web site database has allowed data entry in European languages based on Roman script (such as English, French, German, Spanish and Portuguese); this will continue to be true during phase 2. In addition, during phase 2 the database development team will work to ensure better search capabilities across all these European languages, so that, for example, a search by country name or key word in Spanish will not only retrieve all relevant entries for that term in Spanish-language entries, but will also retrieve relevant entries for that term in other European languages.

By limiting the pilot survey to the 10 anglophone countries of SADC (ref. figure 1 below), instead of the original 18 anglophone, francophone and Portuguese-speaking countries of the southern African subregion, the Consortium would also be able to bring the cost of the project down to US$ 440,000 from the original US$ 655,000. This is due mainly to less costly workshops with fewer participants and no translation and interpretation requirements, fewer country visits and fewer country Parties to be supported. The attached revised budget sheet gives the new breakdown of costs by activity clusters and by members of the Consortium.

The proposed concentration of the phase 2 project would not otherwise affect the level of planned activities and outputs or the envisaged support to Parties.

The other terms and conditions of the original offer (ICCD/COP(4)/CST/3/Add.1 of 29 November 2000) remain valid.

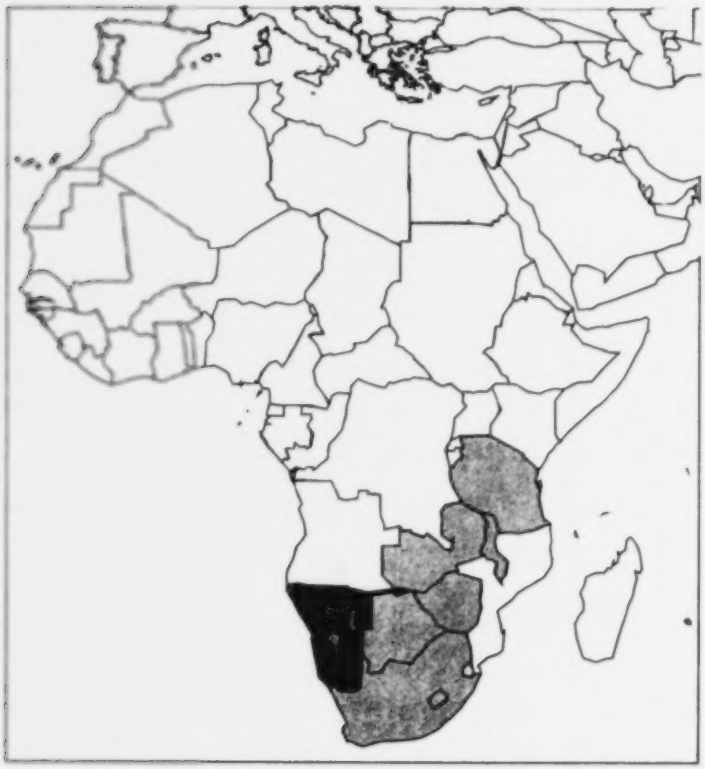

Figure 1: The 10 anglophone member states of the Southern African Development Community (SADC): Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Annex 4 rev: Revised estimated costs (US$) of phase 2

This estimated costing includes: (i) the costs which will be incurred by each of the seven Consortium members as indicated below, including costs of subcontracts with the collaborating organizations to provide thematic, subregional, national, sub-national, NGO/CBO and other inputs, and (ii) costs to cover project coordination and implementation, and the organization by UNEP of planning and synthesis workshops.

Budget items	UNEP	ALIC / UofA	ISRIC	UNSO/ UNDP	DRFN / SADC	WMO	RIOD - NFP	[illegible]	Total
Preliminary action: contracting and development of survey instruments and evaluation criteria (ref. TOR 3 a,b,c,d,e)	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000		14,000
Planning workshop for development of survey instruments and evaluation criteria as above (ref. TOR 3 a,b,c,d,e), translations, reports	40,000								40,000
In depth evaluation of networks / units in southern Africa (ref. TOR 3 f,j,k)					25,000	4,000	10,000		39,000
Maintenance and development of the website database including its global operationalization (ref. TOR 3 g,k and 2 c)		54,000	16,000	4,000	20,000 (regi-onal)		10,000		104,000
Phase 2 synthesis and phase 3 strategy workshop (ref. TOR 3 c,h,i,k)	40,000				20,000				60,000
Coordination and reporting	65,000								65,000
Allowance for hardware and software for operationalizing the subregional network and decentralized database (ref. TOR 3 k)					8,000 + 20,000			40,000	68,000
Total	147,000	56,000	18,000	6,000	95,000	6,000	22,000	40,000	390,000
Contingency fund 13% (UNON service costs!)									50,000
Grand total									**440,000**

- - - - -